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1                   A proposal to amend  
2           Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution to  
3           authorize high-performing school districts to become  
4           innovation school districts exempt from certain  
5           provisions of law applicable to school districts and  
6           requiring the legislature to implement by July 1,  
7           2019.

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9   Be It Proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission of  
10   Florida:

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12           Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution is  
13           amended to read:

14                                   ARTICLE IX

15                                   EDUCATION

16           SECTION 4. School districts; school boards; innovation  
17           school districts.-

18           (a) Each county shall constitute a school district;  
19           provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the  
20           electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into  
21           one school district. In each school district there shall be a  
22           school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of  
23           the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately  
24           staggered terms of four years, as provided by law.

25           (b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise  
26           all free public schools within the school district and determine  
27           the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed  
28           herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance  
29           joint educational programs.

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30       (c) The legislature shall provide by law the process by  
31 which a high-performing school district can qualify for the  
32 designation of innovation school district. The district school  
33 board may, by majority vote of the board, seek the innovation  
34 school district designation. The school board shall continue to  
35 operate, control, and supervise all free public schools  
36 established by the innovation school district and the school  
37 board shall remain the governing board of the innovation school  
38 district with the district school superintendent as the chief  
39 executive officer.

40       In order to promote diverse and innovative educational  
41 opportunities for all of Florida's students, school districts  
42 granted innovation district status shall be eligible for  
43 flexibility from provisions of Florida law in the same manner as  
44 other public schools designated by Florida law. The district  
45 school board shall indicate what flexibility from provisions of  
46 Florida law it seeks to obtain.

47       (d) The legislature shall enact legislation implementing  
48 subsection (c) of this section, effective no later than July 1,  
49 2019.